

ground forces used date
 1st Arm Div 10/20 23?
 Third Army 10/24
 (1 Div, 4 Btns)

forces alerted date
 SAC bombs & CBM 10/22
 5 Army Divs 10/20
 24 transp. AT. 10/27
 101st Arb. Div

marines alerted date
 2nd Bat, 1st 10/20
 1st Bat, 4th Div 10/28
 3rd Exp Bt 10/28
 2nd Div

marines alerted

300,000, and 45,000
 Marines

ground forces airlifted date

air forces used date

SAC - ? ;

1611th Transp Wing

navy ships used date

180 ; 10/20

+

Specific Military Actions

Incident: Cuba, 62 missiles

F 10/19/62 - 11/15/62

M 10/22/62 - 11/20/62

Date:

Unit	Actions	Initiated	Terminated	Revealing Source
Sixth Fleet	slight modification in schedule so that T F 60 (ind. carrier) was always at sea; other task group rested 2 carriers present			
SAC U-2 reconnaissance overflights;	overflew Cuba, took first photos of Soviet intermediate range ballistic missiles; flights intensified	14 Oct, 62		"Strategic Air Command"
SAC battle staffs	battle staffs placed on 24-hr alert, leaves cancelled; B-47s dispersed ^{to civilian airfield} additional bombers & tankers placed on ground alert; B-52 airborne indoctrination program expanded into airborne alert - 24 hr. flights & immediate replacement of planes that landed (fully loaded w/ A-bombs) put on alert; bombers & missiles armed w/ nukes	22 Oct, 62 "	20 Nov, 62 20 Nov, 62	
5th ICBM Forces		"		War Powers Legislation
SAC RB-47s & KC-97s	join search for Soviet ships bound for Cuba	25 Oct, 62		
1st Armored Division	begins moving from Texas to Georgia	20 Oct, 62		
5 other divisions	placed on alert	20 Oct, 62		
180 ships	deployed in Caribbean	"		
Guantanamo Bay	forces strengthened	"		
"	blockade in effect	24 Oct, 62		
24 troop carrier squadrons of Air Force Reserve	recalled to active duty	27 Oct, 62		Pentagon announcement
Second Fleet Flagship & others	left Norfolk precipitously (left some crew on shore leave); operated NE of Cuba, Flagship as backup: [Walnut Line]	22 Oct, 62		
"	moved to Chestnut Line		day before Nov, 62 Thanksgiving	
4 TAC air squadrons	alerted in case air strike option chosen	20 Oct, 62		13 Days

Source:

11 Sept 62

Pres Kennedy

Upshur (T-AP-198) &
other ships & planes

Newport News (CA-148),
Canberra (CAG-2),
Essex (CVS-9), several
squadrons of destroyers,
oilers, ammunition
ships (TF 136) under
VAdm H. B. Ward Cdr
2nd Fleet

Geary (DD-710)
Joseph P. Kennedy Jr
(DD-850) & John R
Pierce (DD-773)

quarantine

Navy ships
per 8 page flight, 2/day
air reconnaissance

Polaris subs

Sixth Fleet

US Coast Guard

1st Armored Division
signal units
artillery batteries
ordnance units

Third Army

all except air
defense units

asked Cong. authority to call up reserves (150,000)

evacuate 3,190 Navy & Marine dependents 22 Oct 62
from Guantanamo

implement quarantine

stopped, passed Sov. oil tanker Bucharest
board ^{USS} ~~Naval~~ (chartered Lebanese freighter),
inspect cargo, clear it

lifted for 2 days at U Thant request
resumes

intercept & photo, do not board, Sov. ships
low level recon
low level discontinued, U-2 continues

to replace Turkey-based missiles

assures 2 nuclear carriers in Med

augments forces in Florida Keys - to halt
Cuban exile raids

moved from Ft. Hood, Texas to Ft. Gordon, Geo.
from Ft. Carson, Colo. to Ft. Bragg to Ft. Gordon
from Ft. Lewis, Washington
from Ft. Meade, Md.

executed plans to defend S.E. U.S. - Nike-Hercules
missile units deployed

returned to home stations

10 AM
24 Oct 62

25 Oct 62
26 Oct 62

29-31 Oct 62
1 Nov 62

9 Nov 62

23 Oct 62
~~15 Jan 63~~

19 Jan 63

18 Feb 63

4 April 63

23 Oct 62

"

"

"

15 Jan 63

24 Nov 62

by 20 Dec 62

Specific Military Actions

Incident: Cuba missiles 62

Date:

Unit	Actions	Initiated	Terminated	Revealing Source
U.S. Third Army, incl. 1 Armored Div 4 Field Artillery Bns 4 Missile Bns 2 Tank Bns 1 Signal Bn 2 Artillery Groups	moved to SE US to defend (F. Stewart, Geo)	24 Oct, 62	1 Dec, 62 - 20 Dec, 62	Dept of the Army memo DA MO-EX 21 May, 74 HRC 370.02 Contingency Operations in US Army, 3rd Army History of the Third US Army 1918-1962
Atlantic Fleet; total 8 carriers on 24 Oct - 29 DDs, 2 cruisers, 101st Airborne	reinforce 2nd Logistical Command (designated Peninsular Base Command - PBC) with medical & quartermaster units	25 Oct, 62		Cong. Record
2 DDs, 155 of South Atlantic Force	reached for action break off Unitas III exercise, return to home ports	25 Oct, 62		↑ Rendezvous with Dest South Atlantic 1962
At Force flagship Mullinix (DD) leads US-Lat Amer quarantine TF (2 Arg. DDs, 2 Venez DDs, 2 Dan Rep Frigates)	153 contacts then exercises	1 Dec, 62	21 Nov, 62 6 Dec, 62	" "
COMSOLANT staff	augmented by 35 enlisted men, 13 officers during Cuba , in command of US-L.A. Combined quarantine task force			"
1611th Air Transport Wing 15 C-121s, 23 C-130s, 8 C-124s, 10 C-119s, 6 C-133s	movement control team activated & deployed USAF personnel for air lift into Guantanamo of reinforcements, supplies	Oct 62		1611th hist 1 July - 31 Dec 62
Source: 300,000 troops, incl. 45,000 Marines - ready to invade Cuba		Oct 62		Times 4 Jan 63 3:1

8 recon planes / flight low-level recon flights over Cuba - 2/day
" " increased to flight every 2 hours
" " ended
assembling ships, planning for invasion

23 Oct, 62
26 Oct, 62

15 Jan, 63

13 May

24 troop-carrier squadrons of Air Force Reserve ordered to active duty

27 Oct, 62

13 Days

2 CVAs in Mediterr. kept on station to counter Soviet moves ag. Turkey

CVA-70, 361

8 CVs involved

Polmar, p. 662

Guantanamo evacuated

3+ squadrons of recon ^{plane} / helo aircraft

NMC, p. 18

11

USMC 1st Div alerted

10/19

2d Bat / 1st Bn readied for deployment

10/19

History of 1st Mar

p. 25

Some troop carriers:

Imo Linn

Kenico

Bexar

Bayfield

Changan

p. 26

Specific Military Actions

Date: 1962

Unit	Actions	Initiated	Terminated	Revealing Source
USMC & USN	OPERATION PHIBRIGLEX 62, INVOLVING MORE THAN 40 SHIPS AND 20,000 MARINES & SAILORS, CONDUCTED IN VICINITY OF PUERTO RICO. EXERCISE INVOLVED USE OF US SUBMARINES IN ROLE OF AGGRESSORS AGAINST FLEET	15 OCT	30 OCT	USMC CHRON. VOL III P 57
2 ND BAT. 1 ST MARINES	RECEIVE ORDERS TO MOVE OUT COMBAT READY FOR GUANTANAMO BAY. LEFT OCT 20	19 OCT	—	<u>IBID</u>
ELEMENTS 1 ST & 2 ND DIV USMC	BEGIN TO ARRIVE AT GUANTANAMO BAY REINFORCEMENTS	21 OCT	—	<u>IBID</u>
5 TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE	5 TH MARINE EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE OF 11,000 MEN ON BOARD SHIPS IN SAN DIEGO READY TO SAIL FOR CUBA	22 OCT	—	<u>IBID</u>
<u>IBID</u>	SAILS FOR CUBA	28 OCT	—	<u>IBID</u>
2 ND DIV. (USMC), MAG-14, MAG-26 MAG-32, 24, 31	DEPLOYED AT KEY WEST & IN CARIBBEAN WATERS	28 OCT	—	<u>IBID</u>
5 TH MAR. EXPEDITIONARY BRIGADE	### WITHDRAWN FROM CUBA	30 NOV →	—	<u>IBID</u> P 59
1 ST BAT. 7 TH MARINES	WITHDRAWN FROM CUBA	10 DEC →	—	<u>IBID</u> P 59
ELEMENTS 1 ST & 2 ND DIV Source: USMC	WITHDRAW FROM GUANTANAMO BAY	11 DEC →	—	<u>IBID</u>

Atlantic til #
Enterprise
CVAS Independence
Saratoga

CVT Lexington
(CVR)

CVS Essex
Lake Champlain
Randolph
Wash

from
Rob Mahoney
on 4/20/76 (Phone

Local Situation

Incident: missiles Cuba, 62

Target country: USSR

Type of regime: communist

Names and Allegiances of prominent individuals:

Major reaction to incident: USSR alerted armed forces, challenged right to quarantine 23 Oct; offers to remove missiles from Turkey 27 Oct; agreed to remove missiles w/ U.N. inspection, 28 Oct, 62 - if US removes missiles from Turkey 27 Oct; agreed to remove medium bombers w/in 30 days 20 Nov, 62 - if US halt quarantine & join other OAS countries in commitment not to invade Cuba

Castro cables Khrushchev that US must accept 5 demands, incl. evacuation of Guantanamo before settlement 7 Nov; tells UN bombers are Cuba's, will stay; Cuban press says will accept UN inspection if US will - at bases where exiles are trained 26 Nov, 62; Khrush says all missiles out of Cuba 7 Nov; - US-USSR agreement on inspection at sea announced by US; Castro threatens to shoot down US reconnaissance planes 15 Nov; Deputy Premier Mikoyan confers w/ Kennedy 29 Nov 62; Castro releases Bay of Pigs prisoners 23 Dec 62; reports Cuba still receiving weapons, etc - "defensive" 22 Jan, 63; US accuses Cuba of MIG firing on shrimp boat, Cuba denies 20-24 Feb; Soviet troops leaving 2 March, 63; US fisher fined on, Cuba apologizes 30 March; USSR holds US responsible

When	Action
28 Oct, 62	Premier Khrushchev wrote Pres to have ordered dismantling of Soviet missile bases in Cuba
11 Sept 62	accuses US of preparing to invade Cuba, warns any attack on Cuba or Soviet ship bound for Cuba would mean war
2 Sept 63 (27)	announces arms & military technician agreement
	warns any attack by US on Cuba

Others

Actor

Actions

When

OAS Council	unanimous vote to authorize "the use of armed forces" to carry out quarantine	23 Oct, 62
UK	supports US blockade, accuses USSR of duplicity	23 Oct, 62
UN Acting SG-U Thant	asks US to refrain from blockade, asks USSR to stop sending missiles	24 Oct, 62
"	flies to Havana to discuss UN checking on dismantling	29 Oct, 62
Argentina (2 DDs), Dom Rep (2 frigates), Venez (2 DDs),	join US forces in quarantine	8 Nov, 62
Venez amb to OAS	places documents before that organization blaming Cuba for recent sabotage	9 Nov, 62
PR China	Jennin Qih Pao severely criticizes USSR Khrushchev for Cuba compromise	15 Nov 62
other comm states	material assistance/support - Warsaw Pact alerted forces	23 Oct 62 - 21 Nov, 62
FRG - Chancellor Adenauer	confers w/ Pres Kennedy - urges greater firmness against USSR	14-15 Nov, 62

(over)

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Soviet Un. on Action
Premier Khrushchev wrote Pres to have ordered dismantling of Soviet missile bases in Cuba
accuses US of preparing to invade Cuba, warns any attack on Cuba or Soviet ships bound for Cuba would mean war (reaction to Kennedy seeking authorization to call up reserves)
announces arms & military technician agreement
warns any attack by US on Cuba

When

28 Oct, 62

11 Sept 62

2 Sept 63 (2)?

Others

Actor

Actions

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UK

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23 Oct 62 - 21 Nov, 62

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14-15 Nov, 62

over

- Cuba fired on Navy plane over inter. waters 30 Aug, 62; exiles Alpha 66 attack ships in Caribbean harbor 10 Sept, 62
 Cuba announces Sov. will help build fishing port 29 Sept 62; exile attacks 8 + 12 Oct
 definitive rept on medium range + intermediate range missiles, IL-28 1,000 m range bombers 21 Oct, 62
 Cuba releases Bay of Pigs prisoners for food + medical supplies 23 - 24 Dec, '62

Diplomatic actions:

Policy Context

Incident:

Cuba, 62 missiles

Official:

Form

Statements

To whom

Date

Pres. Kennedy	speech	quarantine against shipments for Cuba + demanded removal of missiles already there; any launch would require US response on USSR		21 Oct 22 Oct, 62
"	notifies			"
Dep. Sec. of Defense Gulpatrick	announcement	all long range missiles cut counted 42 medium-range missiles being removed on Soviet ships	Congress	8 Nov 62 11 Nov, 62
Pres. Kennedy Dep. Sec. of Defense U.S. Navy	announcement	end of naval blockade jets being shipped ; jets being shipped verified 42 Sov. jet bombers being taken to USSR		20 Nov, 62 3 Dec 62 6 Dec, 62
Pres. Kennedy	warned	against any buildup of offensive strength	USSR + Cuba	13 Sept '62 24 - 29 Oct, 62
Kennedy	secret negotiations	Letters - dismantle bases + remove under UN supervision K. pledges will not invade Cuba, will lift quarantine	Khrushchev	

Other actions:

Other actions:

Nuclear Threat?

Type of action

Date

govt begins discussing blockade idea	16 Oct, 62
demands missile bases be dismantled at UN Security Council	27 27 Oct, 62
US + USSR announce end of crisis at U.N.	7 Jan, 63
House of Reps + Senate approve resolution saying US would use military force if necessary against Cuban threat to US security	26 Sept 62
US-USSR agreement - Navy ships check Sov. ships at sea to carry missiles	7 Nov, 62
US bans govt-financed cargoes from foreign ships which trade w/ Cuba	6 Feb, 63
arrest 3 pro-Castro Cubans on charge of conspiring sabotage	16 Nov, 62
Inter-American Development Bank lends \$16.8 million to Venezuela + Uruguay	19 Nov, 62
airlift of Bay of Pigs prisoners begins	23 Dec, 62
Depts of State + Justice pledge to "take every step necessary" to see US territory not used as base for exile raids (had been attacks on Soviet ships)	30 March, 63
US Third Army trains Cuban exiles at Fort Gulson	812 Jan 63 - 3 Dec 64

Pres. Kennedy	confirmed reports that several thousand Sov. technicians & "large quantities" of supplies to Cuba	22 Aug 62
"	US would move swiftly against Cuba if necessary to defend US security	13 Sept, 62
"	agrees to talk w/ Uthant on possibility of negotiations	25 Oct, 62
"	aerial photos show missiles being crated & bases dismantled - will continue surveillance	2 Nov, 62
DOD	announc. all known offensive missile bases dismantled	8 Nov 62
Sec Def McNamara	pledge to protect reconnaissance planes, shows recon photos to reassure that all offensive missiles out of Cuba	16 Nov, 62
Pres. Kennedy	Soviet forces in Cuba are "unfinished" business w/ them but not a threat	6 Feb, 63
State Dept	Miro charges "highly inaccurate & distorted"	7 Feb, 63
		14 April, 63

U. S. Objectives

Incident: Cuba, 64 missiles

Stated:

by whom:

Inferred:

by whom:

Outcome

According to U.S. policymakers (include anticipated applicability to similar situations):

according to target country:

according to outside observers:

4815
USSR / Cuba / OAS /
(Khushchenko)
(Castro)

~~Tarakan~~
~~10/1/64~~

III, 6, a

Question: What portion of the force was on alert at a single time?

Answer: The airborne alert concept was first tested in September 1958 starting with four sorties airborne 24 hours per day. These indoctrination flights were steadily increased to 12 per day and remained at a constant level until the Cuban crisis in October 1962. It was during this period that airborne alert reached its height with 1/8 of the force or two sorties per each 15 UE squadron constantly airborne. Additionally, the remainder of SAC's force was on ground alert. During the period 22 October 1962 - 20 November 1962 more than 2,000 airborne alert sorties were flown. After the Cuban crisis airborne alert indoctrination flights were resumed at the 12 per day level and remained at that rate until 1 July 1966. At that time airborne alert flights were reduced to four sorties per day until their termination in January 1968.

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